SCRAPS OF SCIENCE.

Mix a little saltpetre or carbonate of Mix a little saltpetre or carbonate of special interest soda with water, and it will preserve by the publication of Dr. Martin's work, den seeds as follows:

"The Chinese, their Education, Philoso-"We saw annually about four acres of

ERNEST RENAN, writing from the region of the Nile, claims to have discov- instruction, but the point to which we which produce probably five millions in ered a little model of a sewing machine, refer is his account of a visit to the number, and which we never fail to sell, supposed to have been made over six families of descendants of Abraham and mostly in our immediate neighborhood

Paussic acid remains for a considerable time in the bodies of animals pois-oned with it, and arrests their decay. M. Brame killed a rabbit and a cat by administering to each a gramme of this historic and geographical knowledge in land smoothly lines are drawn by the acid. A month afterward the bodies were found perfectly preserved, the dose being sufficient to permeate the tissues and to become intimately incorporated with those of the stomach.

THE subsoil of Paris, contains abundance of sniphur, new in course of forma-tion, as was recently proved in making excavations in the Place de la Republique. M. Danbree says that this native sulphur has nothing to do with the escape of gas from the mains, but that its origin is due to the simultaneous presence of various kinds of organic substances and of gypsum in the soil.

PROF. CARNELLY, of Sheffield, has falling into decay, they themselves fore shown that liquids can be reduced to a | it down, and made no effort to rebuild it. solid, or frozen state, and still retain After this was gone they dropped all their heat. In order to convert a solid into a liquid the pressure must be above a certain point As long, therefore, as the necessary pressure is maintained, no deed, and still possess, ancient rolls of amount of heat will liquify it. By ob- the law in a strange form of alphabet, serving this law Prof. Carnelly succeeded in freezing some water in a glass vessel which remained so hot as to burn of the contents of the manuscripts, and

According to Prof. Tyndall's definition, the brain is the organized register of infinitely numerous experiences received during the evolution of life, or rather during the evolution of that series | to them and enable them to rebuild their of organism through which the human synagogue, of which now only remains a organism has been reached; the effect of stone inscribed with the record of its the most uniform and frequent of these | erection about A. D. 1183, and a subexperiences has been successfully be- sequent re-erection. The last rabbi who quenthed, principal and interest, and | could read the Book of the Law died | have slowly mounted to that high intelli-gence which lies latent in the brain of this remarkable colony which had come "roasting ears" in October, when they never fail to sell freely at high rates;

of the eyes in a dark room, reveals the network of blood vessels in the retina. A curious phenomenon of the same order has been lately observed by M. Charpentier. Looking at a sky uniformly illuminated with diffuse white light, he made the two fingers of his right hand (separate about 0.1 to 0.2 m.), to pass rapidly to an fro before his eyes, and in about half a minute the uniform aspect of the sky was greatly changed On a white background appeared a mosaic composed of hexagons of violet pur ple color, separated by white lines. Other persons, he says, have repeated the experiment with success. He gives reasons for thinking that the hexagonal images correspond to the cones in the fovea and yellow spot, which cones, pressed together, form a sort of hexagonal mosaic. The white lines probably correspond to filaments charged with

crystals of pigment, which descend from the chorodian cells. DR. LE BON continues his researches regarding the products of tobacco. The new alkaloid found in tobacco smoke (with other aromatic principles, and prussic acid as well as nicotine) is a liquid of very agreeable and very penetrating color, and as poisonous as nicotine, the twentieth part of one drop sufficing to paralyze and kill a frog. It is the prussic acid and the various aromatic principles that cause headache, giddiness, and nausea, in smoking certain tobaccos that contain little nicotine. Other tobaccos, rich in nicotine, have no such effects. The tobaccos containing most prussic acid and collidine are those of Havana and the Levant. The dark, semi-liquid matter which condenses in pipes and cigar-holders contains all the substances mentioned, as well as carbonate of ammonia, tarry and coloring matter, etc. It is very poisonous. Two or three drops of it will kill a small animal. The combustion of the tobacco destroys but a small part of the nicotine, and most of this appears in the smoke. The proportion absorbed by smokers varies according to circumstances, but hardly ever falls below fifty centigrammes for every 100 grammes of tobacco burned. About the same quantity of ammonia is absorbed at the same time. Naturally, more of the poisonous principles are absorbed when the smoked is breathed, as in a room; less in the open air. A frog placed in a receiver containing a that substance to a little water, succumbs in a few hours. Tobacco smoke contains about eight millilitres of carbonic oxide

The Color of Lightning.

The color of lightning is altogether due to the nature of the substance which tive, in which the distribution of light is made incandescent in its track. The blue, red, purple and silver tints, which are ordinarily much more brilliantly marked in warm climates and inter-tropical countries than they are ever in Engand fineness of the one it has supplanted. land, are due to the same circumstances | With further exposure a second neutral state is reached, opposite to the first, inas the color which is designedly communicated to the light of different kinds of asmuch as if the latter showed the fireworks. It is a result of the intrinsic | image uniformly dark, the former shows | the parts sore and it will "run" a little, nature of the vaporized particles which are made to shine. The vapor of iron taken at Mendon the time of exposure has one kind of sheen and the vapor of has rarely exceeded 1-1,000 of a second, sulphur another. Each different foreign | if the photospheric granulations were to ingredient that floats in the air has its be obtained, and with plates prepared by own proper hue, which it can communicate to the lightning. The broad flashes may be reduced to 1-20,000th of a second, of light which appear in the clouds dur- or less. Now, if one of these dry plates ing a thunder-storm, and that are distin-guished as sheet-lightning, are very tive image is produced, the body of the tive image is produced, the body of the often merely the reflections from the sun appearing white and spots black, as cloud mist of the discharges that pass | they do to the eye. M. Janssen has simfrom one part to another with each re- ilarly obtained positive images of landdistribution of the internal charge, as | scapes appearing transparently as the

charged by an external flash. charge is sometimes also marked by very beautiful lines of coruscation playing upon the dark background as the storm drifts away. There is a table mountain a few miles away from Petermaritzburg. in Natal, over which this kind of display is continually exhibited. The retreating storm clouds linger over the flat top of this mountain, where they can be seen from the city in the advancing night, In this dark canopy of the mountain coruscations, accompanying each redistribution of the electrical charge, can be watched for hours at a time—now aswatched for hours at a tim In this dark canopy of the mountain fire, now running along in machiolated horizontal lines just above the flat top of the mountain, and now radiating out in her plate over for another filling of all directions from a central loop, like beans and a slug of pork. the cracks of starred glass, -Science for

One potatoes may be freshened up by chicken as a fowl odor. Must be a presentinging them into cold water before ent from somebody. A chicken scent by

THE HICKMAN COURIER.

The Oldest Newspaper in Western Kentucky.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

Hebrews in China.

all knowledge of Hebrew, retained in-

nd ritual of their fathers.

Hebrews of New York by Dr. Martin on

Who First Discovered America.

land, was given to the country visited.

Nearly all the historians mention these

earlier discoveries, and speak of the voy-

of these explorers to the new world .-

sky and corner types, which are of the

positive if the type be positive, and neg-

ative if it be negative. In these photo-

effected its transformation into a positive.

aspiration, the other day, murmu

in the assimilative alembic of eternal

love?" And then she mechanically pushed

THE Philadelphia Chronicle speaks of

ent from somebody. A chicken scent by

graphs it is the same spectral rays that

have given the negative image, and then

A Boston girl, in a moment of dream

Why is it that two souls, mated in the

same sight as the original types-i. e.,

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Some years ago an eminent antiqua-

A subject of interest to all and of

HICKMAN, FULTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 1881.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

Use of the Feet in Planting. Peter Henderson urges the importance special interest to Israelites is revived of properly "firming" the soil over gar-

phy and Letters," The volume is full of celery, cabbage, and cauliflower plants, supposed to have been made over six thousand years ago, by an Egyptian, lived in the city K'ai-fung-fu in China of them even better facilities than we This colony of the old race was made have for raising these plants, if they known to the Western world in the would only do as we do firm the seed seventeenth century by the Jesuit mis-sionaries, who contributed so largely to plowing, harrowing, and leveling the those days. They were heard from "marker," which makes furrows about several times after that, but for more two inches deep and a foot apart. After than a hundred years no one from the the man who sow the seed follows an-Western world had visited them, when other, who with the ball of the right Dr. Martin went there in 1866. Their foot presses down his full weight on present condition is such as to excite profound interest and commiseration. The remarkable fact appears that after preserving for twenty centuries the laws the rake. A light rolled is then passed the rake. A light rolled is then passed to the rake of the rake of the rake. and rites of the Hebrew religion, they over and the operation is done. By this are now presenting an instance unparalmethod our crop has never once failed, leled in the history of the Jews, of a and what is true of celery and cabbage people falling away from the faith, and seed is nearly true of all other seeds rerapidly becoming pagans or Mohamquiring to be sown during the late medans. Three or four hundred of them spring or summer months. On July 2 remain. Their synagogue, however, of 1874, as an experiment, I sowed twelve rows of sweet corn and twelve rows of beets, treading in after sowing every alternate row of each. In both practice of Hebrew rites and ceremonies, cases those trod in came up in four days, began to intermarry with pagans, lost while those unfirmed remained twelve fays before starting, and would not then have germinated had not rain fallen, for the soil was as dry as dust which neither they nor ordinary Hebrew scholars can read, but have no knowledge when planted. The result was that the seeds that had been trodden in grew freely from the start and matured their have almost lost the traditions of their crops to a marketable condition by fall, while the rows unfirmed did not ma-Dr. Martin prophesies their total disture, as the plants were not only eight appearance as a separate race, unless lays later in germinating, but the plants Western Hebrews shall send missionaries were also to some extent enfeebled by eing partially dried in the loose, dry This experiment was a most useful one, for it proved that a corn crop sowed in the vicinity of New York as late as July 2 could be made to produce "roasting ears" in October, when they into China two nundred or three hundred | but the crop would not mature unless Many readers may know the experiment in which a lighted match or candle being ment in which a lighted match or candle being which he about near the side of one of the owner in a lighted match or candle being which he seed germinated at once, and which he food is given."

Into China two nundred or three hundred to the players. The game is for a player to catch at the apple, which he seed germinated at once, and which he food is given."

In the candle and the players. The game will to its main line, and about once a the seed germinated at once, and which he seed germinated at once, and which he seed germinated at once a month the oil is run into the line, the prize the food more than the strength for which he can do with his mouth only. Some season in August I transfer to the players of the players. The game will be the food in given."

In the china two nundred or three hundred to the beauty and the seed germinated at once, and which he seed germinated at once, and which he seed germinated at once a month the oil is run into the line, the prize the food more than the strength for which he can do with his mouth only. Some season in August I transfer to the characteristics of the players. The game will be the food in given in the can do with his month only. The player to catch at the apple, which he can do with his month only. The player to catch at the apple, which he can do with his month only. The player to catch at the apple which he can do with his month only. The player to catch at the apple will be the can do with his month only. The player to catch at the apple will be the can do with his month only. The player the can do will be the can do with his month only. The player the can do will be the player to catch at the apple will be the can do with his month only. The player the can do will be the can do

requested to transmit to the people, to loose soil to the tender rootlets.

whom they were, of course, unintelligible, as none of them could read the mis-How Spring Crops Often Fail. sives, -New York Journal of Commerce. In spring, usually when plowed, the soil is moist from winter rains and snows, and therefore compacts more readily than in the fall. But it is well known rian, Prof. Rafn, published a book showthat oats and barley rarely do well on sod ground, especially if old and tough. ing that the Northmen, or Scandinavians, undoubtedly visited the shores of North Why? There is strength enough in the America about the year 1000, and that they probably entered Narragansett Bay. soil, but it is apt to become very dry about the time the grain is heading out This suggested to some American anti-quarians that the old tower at Newport, often before. The sod is too still to pack R. L, might have been erected by those | solid, and the roots of grain encounter hardy adventurers. Considerable stress places where there is a vacancy between was laid upon this, coupled with the fact | the particles of earth. In hoed crops we that about a thousand years ago these Northmen settled Iceland, and it is known that a colony was sent from there to Graculand, and it is this which makes the magical result from the use of the cultivator, but dito Greenland, while a glance at the map will show that the distance from there to the North American Coast is not so great but it could have easily been reached by will be hard work to do it afterwards. these early rovers. It is also recorded in the Norse traditions that the Northmen in sailing West actually arrived at some country beyond Greenland. The Norse narratives describe a mild clime in the country beyond the sailing will be hard work to do it afterwards. An intelligent farmer remarked the other day that the coarse manure he drew on his potato ground and plowed under last April had absolutely damaged the crop. The sod was heavy, and the country they visited, and mention the coarse manure had lain underneath, having found wild grapes, which is preventing either from rotting. In dig-thought to refer to Rhode Island, where ging into some of the poorest hills of there are plenty of these grapes on the potatoes, he invariably found a hollow islands in the harbor, or to Nova Scotia, space beneath the hill, and unrotted mawhere the climate and fruits are similar to those further South. There have also be had used a pulverizer and roller, and been found an inscription on a rock, near Dighton, Mass., which it was once believed revealed some words in the Norse | pulverized the entire field, but a heavy language; and the brass breast-plate, rain came on when it was half-finished, which was dug up at Fall River, Mass., and it was thought this might be the remains of a Norse Viking. Longfellow wrote his oft but it had not done it effectually.—

Country Gentleman. wrote his "Skeleton in Armor" about relie. The name of Vinland, or Vine-

The Splint in the Horse. It is weli-known to all owners of horses that there is what may be called nges of Erie to Greenland, and the a tumor, which at first is callous and afterwards becomes bony, which sometraditions which remain of the first visits times grows upon the horse's leg, the base resting upon the line of union of the shank bone and the splint-bone, An interesting phenomenon in pho which frequently causes the horse to go solution of nicotine, with about a drop of tography has been announced by M. lame-indeed almost invariably when it Janssen in a note to the French Academy invades the knee-joint, and which is of sciences. While obtaining social frequent's beyond the reach of the farimages at Mendon, he has observed that rier to cure or remove. A short time per 100 grammes of tobacco burned.
The poisonous properties of tobacco smoke are not due to this gas, as has tive is got, this image loses its distinctive is got, this image loses into a neutral for it which was completely successful for it which was completely successful the intion, and the plate passes into a neutral | for it which was completely successful state-f. c., no appreciable change appears on use of a developer. But if the gredients in the belief that the ointment exposure be continued still further, the | might be of service in similar case, we negative image gives place to a posi- append them as follows:-

Equal parts of Oil of amber, Oil of spike, Spirts of turpentine,

Mix well and apply twice a day, and grease with a little fresh or unsalted lard; or, what is better, the marrow from an uncooked beef-bone. It will make but each one mu t te his own judge in the frequency of the application after it becomes somewhat sore, - Germantown

Curing Hams.

A recipe for preserving hams floats up from Tuscumbia, Ala., to the Elmira (N. Y.) Farmers Club. Hams prepared by this method gained a good reputation in New Orleans, Nashville and other couthern cities. The recipe is as follows: After the pork was cut out the tension of the outer surface is scenes is viewed naturally; also a view of the park at Mendon, showing a white med, and well rubbed with salt, The redistribution of the internal solar disk on the dark background of the pulverized saltpeter was sprinkled over the flesh, a dessert spoonful to medium ham, and best sugar molasses two or three spoonfuls poured from the spoon on the same, and salt heaped on; the meat was bulked, hams first, shoulders next, and sides on top. It remained in bulk according to the weather four to six weeks, and was then broken up and the meat washed in the water. The hams were then held in kettles of diluted lye kept briskly boiling and long enough to swell out the meat some and close the pores. Next, they were rolled in good clean ashes, sacked, hung up to be smoked, and then to remain until taken down for sale or use. The lye was previously prepared from the ash of some good wood.

> LET the middle-aged reader count upon his finger all the companions of his the perfume that arises from a roast | youth who have become distinguished, whose names are known upon the two continents, and mark how few they are and far between.

THE FAIRY ARTIST.

BY NELLY M. GARABRANT.

Oh, there is a little artist.
Who pants in the gold night hours.
Pictures for wee, wee children,
Of the wondrous trees and flowers.

Pletures of snow-white mountain Touching the snow-white sky; Pictures of distant occurs Where pigmy ships sail by.

Pictures of rushing rivers By fairy bridges spinned. Rits of teautiful landscapes Copied from giftn-land. The moon is the lamp he paints by,

The moon is the faint to pane;
His convers the window, pane;
His brisin is a frezen snow-flake;
Jack Frost, is the artist's name
— Our Little One.

THE FIVE STARS OF KOREISH. BY EDWARD EVERETT HALE. An Arab sheik, owner of one hundred amels, and three hundred horses and ne thousand sheep, always kept his enimpment at some distance from his insmen. He had five sons and two ughters, who, as they grew, were reorded in all that region as the flower of e country, so careful was their traing, so thorough their accomplishments, nd so pure their lives. One evening hen the father and his son were returng to the guestipment, having ridden arly seventy miles in search of some nels which had straved, the boy asked rmission to speak, and then asked his ather why he and his brothers and sisera were fed from day to day on dates. ad bread, with a strip of dry meat at son, when the boys and girls in neighoring encampments shared this luxury. id timt-fresh meat, killed daily, fruits names unknown from Yemen, and pieces from the ships of India.

odies strong? And can you not ride as well as they? The son replied: "There is not a youth n either camp who can throw me in wrestling; and you know if I have asked to draw bridle or dismount to-day." food is given for. If our fare is simple, the apple ready, light the candle and tie | well to its main line, and about once a

And his father said: "Are not your

These facts have been published be- of turnip in the same way. Those trod had sent a courier to all the camps to ask stantly to avoid the candle, and very of fore, and an appeal was once made to the in germinated at once and made an ex- the attendance of his sons, and of their ten gets a thump in the mouth from the cellent crop, while those unfirmed ger-minated feebly, and were eventually salor who had come from Yemen. He It is better that small children should says the only result was the reception of says the reception of says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says the only result was the reception of says the says ods of embassies. One day they went, The other apple game may be played one day they remained at the encamp- by any one, and there is a great deal of ment, one day they returned. On the fun in it. Get a large, deep tub, fill it third day, when they had ridden ten with water and throw in a few apples, hours, they saw in the horizon the black. The the hands of the players behind cave to speak, and said to his father: the ground, when your kindred had apple,-Golden Days, sushions and woven mats brought by thy

laves, and had furs from the north ready, hould the night be cold, Why, in our amp, do we have neither furs, cushions ight that we may be strong to morrow. Are not your bodies as strong, and can

on not ride as well as they? And his son answered: "There is not wrestling; you know if I have asked draw bridle or to dismount to day." His father said: "This is what sleep given to us for, If our bods are mple, it is that we may not be tempted prize the sleep more than the trength for which the sleep is given."

At another time there came a massage ode across the desert on the swiftest romedary, and took with him his third watched with the dying man, two days they joined in the lamentations over him, and for two days they rode on their return. On the eighth day, as the sun went down, the boy asked leave of his father to speak, and said:

"Why do my consins dress in shawls of cashmere, in silks of Ispahan, and wear clasps of gold and pearl from Screnden, while we are dressed in camel's hair, and wool of our own flocks and men whom he named. herds, which my sisters spun and my

And the father said: "Are you not as warm as they? Are you not as strong as they? Are not your clothes as easy for running and for riding?

And the boy said: "On the evening when we came to the camp there was a wrestling match. I threw all my cousins their turn; and, when the turn came round, I threw them all again. We have dden in two days so far that the ravens are weary of following. You know if I have asked to dismount or draw rein." And his father said: "Our clothes are iven us to screen us from sun and rain, and the pestilence which walketh in darkness. If your clothing is simpler than your kinsmen's, it is that you may not be tempted to value the things more

than the strength and swiftness for which the thing is given. Again, the word came that the chiefs and their children should carry each his offering to the temple at Mecca. And this father, with his wife and children, and forty attendants, went to the city, with forty horses. The offering that he made was oezoar and onyx and myrrh. Seventy days were they in going, in soourning and returning. On the seventieth day as they approached the date palms which they knew, the fourth son

asked leave to speak to his father and "Why do the people of the city go to the mosque to worship God, and we kneel before the open sky?" And his father was troubled, and his ountenance fell, and he said: "Since we left the city have either your brothers or sisters spoken untruly?

"Never, my father." "Or impurely?" "Or meanly?"

Never. "Have they turned from a beggar? Have they failed to share their sait?'

"And has God seemed far away from you because the sky is higher than the temple dome?" "Never so near, my father, as when I sleep on the sands beneath the stars, And his father said: "The temple is built, lest in cities men forget the God of love. If you worship beneath the stars, it is that you may not be tempted to honor the stones more than Him who made the stones, to value His house more than Him who dwells everywhere.' At last, the old man was sick unto death. His four eldest sons had gone with their households, one North, one

"My son, hast thou ever seen Satan?" And the son said: "Never!"

South, one East, one West. He called

his vonngest son to close his eyes, and

at leasts at the heads of tribes, where the revels lasted many days." The son said: "Others saw him there, but not I. His father said: "You lived many, months among Princes of Cario, where

cek pleasure, and pay for it with

The son said: "Others saw him there, The father said: "Not when I sent you to join the caravans of merchants at of the die and lost as quickly, of theilling The son said: "If others saw him

there, not I." Tile father said: "Not when you ived among the learned men and doctors And the son said: "If others saw him

Aud their father said: "It is enough. the head will be strong. If the head be strong, the heart will be true. If the heart is true, your child will know his God. My son pray for your children that they enter not into temptation." And he turned his face to the wall, and died. And his five sons are the chiefs know as the "Five Stars of

Merry Sport With Apples. apple plays important parts. One of the ames which we call "Snap-apple," years ago. In Rome the boys called the same game "Quintain." If any young month. The immense iron tanks the company would like to play snap-apple. et them take a stick about one foot long, and on one end of the stick tie a candle, so that the wick shall point upwards, On the other end of the stick fasten a good sized apple, then, by means of a is all taken care of and stored away by hang, horizontally, three or four feet | build these huge tanks holding twenty from the floor, according to height of five and thirty thousand barrels in difplayers. The other end of the string ferent parts of the region. Whenever a may be fastened to the chandeher, or a a new well is struck and "ile" comes to His father said; "That is what your | hook in the ceiling of the room. Having | the surface this company connects the

ents of their tribe. Then the son asked | them and let them catch the floating apples in their mouths. They are more "O my father, why do you sleep upon likely to get a ducking than to catch an

A Two-Sided Swindle.

One day Mr. William E. Dodge sat lows in his private office, at No. 13 Cliff street, and began to peruse his private mail. Among the first letters he opened was one which would have attracted more than ordinary attention on account of the graceful penmanship and the reunrhable meatness of epistle, even if it facts besides. It told in a manly, straightforward way the story of the writer, who was, so he explained, a minister of the gospel, suffering from an illness of his vocal organs, so that he could no longer exercise his priestly functions. He had been afflicted so long that he had been forced, because of poverty, to seek at the elder brother of the sheik was | treatment and a temporary home in the , and had sent for him. The sheik City Hospital. He felt that he ought to be afoot on God's work, but he was unable to carry out that wish and desire, son. Two days they rode, two days they and until recently he had no hope of being able to ever again labor in the vineyard. But he had just been assured by some excellent physicians (naming them) that if he would go South he would certainly recover the use of his voice, and it was in the hope that Mr. Dodge would | them. assist him with the loan, say of \$50, that this letter was written. In conclusion the writer mentioned, as though casually, that he knew very well certain clergy-

Mr. Dodge knew the clergymen and entertained the request so favorably that it was only necessary to read an inclosure that came with the letter signed by a physician to cause him to draw out his leek book, write in \$50 and send it to the applicant. The doctor's letter written in a sharp, professional hand, set forth that the clergymaa was really in need of the money, and the object was so deserving that the kindness of Mr.

Dodge's consideration would be well Presently Mr. Dodge heard something that led him to believe that he had been victimized and thus he tells the story: "I had no sooner sent the check than I began to fear I had made a mistake and instituted an inquiry. I discovered that the preacher was a fraud and the doctor was an inmate of the hospital because of alcoholism. I supposed he was one of the physicians of the institution. It seems that the preacher didn't know enough about business to get the check cashed, and so he turned it over to the doctor, who brought it to my office and got the money. Then he slipped away and made no division with his confederate. So, you see, the preacher became, like myself, the victim of the swindle. -New York Hera'd.

Rodent "Bummers." Patrick Lynch is an Eric flagman at

a street crossing in a city on the line of the road, and he is the authority for a queer story about some rats that he saw near his flaghouse a short time ago. A tramp had left the remnants of his dinner on the side of the bank and some whisky had been spilled on the food. There are lots of rats around there that come from the slaughter-houses and travel about the whole neighborhood in flocks in broad daylight. Six of these came across the remains of the tramp's, and immediately proceeded to hold a banquet. They ate to their surfeit of everything. Pretty soon they began to get drunk. They danced around and rolled each other over, hugged one another in mandlin delirium, and acted for all the world as a lot of drunken men might do under the same circumstances. Finally one after another keeled over dead drunk, and then lay helpless, while Mr. Lynch, who had been watching the whole proceeding, stepped out and killed them. They make a feeble effort to get away when Mr. Lynch appeared with a club, but were to drunk to run .-Elmira Free Press.

Ir is not pleasant to have the barber's apprentice practicing upon you, lay open your cheek with a two-inch gash, and then follow the cut with the cheery remark, "Skin's very tender, sir." It is not pleasant. We don't know what it is, His father said: "Yet you have been but it isn't pleasant, - Hawk-Eve.

VOL. XVI.-NO. 31,

How Fortunes Are Made and Lost in Northwestern Penusylvania A Mania For Wild Speculation.

Bradford, Pa., Unrespondence Philadelphia Times.

GAMBLING IN OIL.

One might spend weeks in the oil regions listening to the local historian as he narrates stories of the past two decades -of towns and cities depopulated in a week, of fortunes won as by the turning accidents, of hairbreadth escapes and heroic daring. From Stump creek, with its mysteriously "wildcats" on the south, to Olean, in southern New York, there is not a town or hamlet with its tavern that has not its misanthrope, who sits, with his clay or cob pipe, and croaks from morn to eye about the evils of the oil usiness. If one is acquainted with the My ow if your children are not a strange mixture of alcohol kimmel to by the flest they will not be water and old rye, his tongue will be tempted by the eye. If the head he loosened and he will talk for hours consoned and he will be w cerning the past, present and probable future of the region. The oil business at present is confined to a great extent o the Bradford field, in McKean County. Oil is still produced to a certain exten for a distance of seventy miles south of this, but Bradford and vicinity produce five sixths of all the oil at present. The daily production by the best calculations is at present about 67,000 barrels. The consumption is about 40,000 barrels, leaving 27,000 barrels of stock to be run There are two old games in which the | into the United Line, as they call it here and stored away in hopes of a futur market. Two months ago the produc riginated in Greece over two thousand | tion was estimated at 75,000 barrels, se month. The immense iron tanks that overlook the tops and guards the base of these mountains like castles of old had the amount of oil in them increased from 10,000,000 barrels on January 1, 1880, to 21,000,000 on January 1, 1881. The of ag, suspend the stick so that it shall | the United Line, mentioned above. The

The speculative mania has existed since the first oil well was sunk near Titusville. From time to time it has taken different forms, but it always ends in the same way. Fortunes are won to-day and lost to-morrow. Men who are the money kings one week are the curbstone brokers the next. At first the speculation was in oil land or what was supposed to be such. When oil was first liscovered and its commercial value assertained, men knew but little how to go about producing it. The idea prevailed that all this vast area of country, and no one pretended to determine its extent, was underlaid by a vast sea of oil, and that all that had to be done was to secure land, sink a well to the required depth and strike oil. Land was, of course, in great demand. Men from neighboring States rushed in, and a self-restraint and thoughtfulness, it, of market was obtainable for any tract, Land was bought in the morning and view and to create desires which may or sold before night for five times the first | may not be of a simple and inexpensive price. Men became rich. The money kind. The habit of self-restraint is the of Wall street flowed into the region, one point to which education must tend and the natives secured it. The belt if it is to develop thrift; and looking theory obtained prominence soon after, around on society generally it is difficult and land was not salable unless it was on a belt or supposed belt. This | this control of individual proclivities in theory, and there is little doubt but it one class more than another, though the is the correct one, is that the oil runs | nature and direction of those proclivities in belts or subterranean streams. As may vary considerably, a rule it follows a straight course, and good territory can generally be told by the compass before the well is struck. Some of the belts are wide and some very narrow. Very few people were benefited by the speculative price paid for land. A few old farmers hoarded it away, but the large majority went wild with excitement, and the money

Speculation on the price of oil was the next form, and the one that finds prominence to-day. Magnificent oil exchanges were crected in Oil City, Titusville and Bradford. Here speculation is indulged in on the price of oil, the oil certificates being the basis. One instance of now men become rich in this speculation occurred in Oil City. Two brothers, by the name of Goettle, in 1866-7 were bootblacks around the streets of the oil towns. They made a good deal of money for boys and saved it. When they had a few hundreds saved they took a flyer on the market. They were successful and doubled success still followed them, and to-day they are among the wealthiest and most successful speculators in the region. The magnificient generosity of oil men is well known. A poor and needy woman has often had thousands of dollars raised for her among a crowd of oil men, and in a few minutes she was raised from poverty to opulence. They spend money like water and no towns in the country will show better dressed men and women than these. They all almost universally wear diamonds upon their bosoms, which in many cases they are forced to pawn for necessities before they have become even accustomed to them. Speculation is the life blood of Oil City. When the market is dull, inactive for a few days it is noticeable every place. Business stagnates, men get the "blues" and the town is dull indeed. But let the market be variable fortunes are being made and lost, men are excited, the streets are alive with oil brokers rushing back and forth between banks and exchanges with certificates, drafts, checks and even money in their hands. The wives of the brokers crowd to the exchange and filling the visitors' gallery watch the operations of their husbands. Some time ago, in one of these ex-

went into the ground in the shape of

dry holes or wells that had no oil in

changes the gallery was filled to overflowing. The market was leaping up at the rate of ten cents an hour. One of the heaviest buyers was on the wrong side. He saw his fortune disapp like mist, at the rate of \$25,000 an hour. For six hours this continued, and he was forced to "lay down," as it is called; to be announced a bankrupt, in other words. His wife was a witness of the whole scene. An hour before the worst came she left the exchange, walked into a dry-goods store, took off her seal-skin ack and sold it. From that she went to the jeweler's and disposed of her diamonds and all her silver. When her husband returned home, disconsolate and downcast, she met him at the door dressed in a neat calico wrapper. He had been a clerk before fortune smiled upon him, and she a modest school-teacher. She informed him that she had discharged all the servants, and that they would live as formerly, she doing the work. She handed him \$5,500 as the result of her selling her jewelry, and told him to use it. Joy and hope beamed in his eyes and found a place in his beart | ing resemblances.

ngain. He went again to the business. In one month he had regained his former position, had redeemed everything his wife had pledged and was living as formerly. Three times in six years was this man saved in this mananother. A young man in Franklin we go? wished to marry. He was well to do, and had a snug little sum in the bank, but the speculative mania caught him. He invested it all in oil. The market that had been going up, up for four days, turned the very day he bought, and in two short hours he saw his sayings for years disappear. It maddened him. He took to drink, became unfit for business lost his position, the love and respect of his wife, for he had married and granully sank, step by step, until he is hear a maudlin har-room drunkari. Keeps have been ruined,

hearts broken lives destroyed, men crazed by the exciting, insane passion that never quits them till they have lost all they possess, except in a very few uses where they had the hardihood to ly while their pockets were full. This appens about as often as it does in the one with gray hairs is found among

The Habit of Thrift. The habits of thrift are defined by the London Globe as facts of self-denial for the sake of some object in the future, and it is just such acts as these which people in all cities find it extremely diffiult to practice. It is a matter to a very great extent depending on natural dis-position which varies just as much in one class as in another. There are some who y nature are endowed with the accumuative propensity of the squirrel, the bee sorbing pleasure in hoarding what they get; not, perhaps, for its own sake, but as a measure of successful action, and as a kind of reserve of power which they have at command should they choose to exert it. Others seem to have nothing of this in their composition. The power They are sanguine as to the future, rarely foresee trouble, and are gay and lightquisitive individual will usually be found apprehensive of the coming time, and very apt to meet his troubles half-way. These two types of character are as marked and distinct as any two possibly can be, and the extreme of each can scarcely be considered amenable to modifying influences to any extent. Moreover, they are confined not to one class but are found in all. Education is commonly regarded as the proper cure for thriffless habits, and, to a certain extent, no doubt, it is. But education cannot eradicate the constituent traits of individual character. The accumulative and foreboding will always remain more or less so, and the sauguine and freehanded will always feel the passing day to course, has a tendency to expand the

Waste and Abuse of Flowers.

Masses of flowers on a dinner -table are an anomaly; there is something al-most offensive in the mingled odor of their perfume and the reck of the dishes poses. Roses, lilies, carnations, violets are natural adornments for a young woman, and a bunch of them in her hand or on her breast is an appropriate ornament, and the complement of her evening dress; but where is the fitness, the beauty, the sentiment, the common sense, when she has six, a dozen, or twenty? Are there twenty persons, or twelve, or even six, at the same time to send her flowers which mean more than if they were of wax or tissue paper, or which have any more intrinsic value to her who carries them? Are they witnesses of love, or even of admiration? How many are sent merely to gratify the demands of vanity? At every ball rival sickness, or at a time of special joy or good offices? And what of those sent by a man to a woman whom he admires, not to give her pleasure, but prestigeto gratify her vanity and reflexly his own! There is an instance, well known, in one of our great cities, of one man sending several bouquets for the same ball, to console her for a social slight; she appeared to be unitiated as a great belle and he as the belle's favored cavalier. And what of the bouquets stacked on the front cushion of a proscenium box, in the blast of the footlights and flung, half-faded, to a prima donna, to whom they are already a drug, who perhaps is hurrying through her part to leave town by the next train?-Atimtic

Henry Clay Fond of Whist.

Henry Clay's favorite recreation for many years was a game of whist, to which at one time he was passionately addicted-not for the stakes, but for the distraction and excitement of the game. Mr. Winthrop says that there is a tradi-tion that while Clay was visiting Boston in 1818, and lodging at the old Exchange point was rather peculiar in this, that Coffee House in Congress street, a servant rushed into the parlor in which he was at the whist table with a few gentlemen of the old school, and announced that the hotel was on fire. "Oh, there will be time enough, I think," cried Mr. Clay, "to finish the

game," and finish it they did before the hotel was burned to the ground. A similar tradition was current in Washington at a later period that, while Mr. Clay was Speaker, he and his friends had passed a whole night at cards, and were still going on with their games when the hour was close at hand for the | Mammoth Pearl. In the experiment

Wait a few minutes, gentlemen," said Mr. Clay, "and I will wash my face | teen inches apart in the rows, and the and hands, and run down to the House | rows three feet apart. They were cultiand call John Taylor to the chair, and vated four times, once in a row, and then I will come back and we will have hand-hoed twice. Paris green was apanother rubber."

HUMORS OF THE DAY.

The hens are organizing a mutual laid THE bad oyster plays a dead open and

shut game. STRIKING near home - knocking a tramp off your front steps. Ir is much easier to be lovely and accomplished when one is rich.

QUEE SHIVER—that which passes through a newspaper office. RESOLUTIONS are great sticklers for eremony. They all have to be intro-

A Chicago editor advertises for a wife who knows less than he does. Some men are mighty hard to suft.

To make a Graham leaf—put him upon the street corner with a cigar in his mouth.—Danbury News. Some editors bubble over with original fun which comes from the heart and goes to the right spot-the paste-pot of their eighbors.

"Do you drink?" said a temperance rener by his wife. To day he is one of the most daring and successful of our alms of him. "Yes, thank you," respeculators. This is one story. Here is | turned the candid pauper; "where shall

> THE man who took a seat in the orchestra when his ticket was for the sec-ond balcony felt badly in having to change. In fact, he was moved two

> Lady-"Twenty-five dollars a week! Isn't that too much?" "No, mum; the onsolidated Servant Girls' Union has forbidden us to wurruk for any less,

Jones is a bad statterer. He was busing Fogg the other day; but Fogg, who is a brakeman and is used to such nings, turned away with the remark that it was only a broken rail.

"JOHNNY," said his father, as the boy took the primal biscuit from the plate, "don't you know that it is impolite to help yourself before your elders?" "Why, papa, mother told me to help lives of gamblers. These men, as a rule, live fast lives, and it is very seldom that myself before you." "What do you mean, sir?" asked his father, while his mother looked up with astonishment depicted in every feature. "Why I heard mother tell Aunt Hannah that she hoped I wouldn't take after you, and so I

thought I would take my biscuit first." "Why do women so often wander aimlessly in the murky solitudes of the dead past, brooding over the days that are forever gone?" asked a young lady of a practical lover, who is a widower. They lon't," he replied. "On the contrary, they wander around the dry goods stores of the present, pricing things they have no idea of buying. Women are not dreamy or poetical, but when it comes and the ant. They find a keen and ab- to getting a \$2 bustle for \$1.80 they keep

right up with the procession.' Fogg-"I say, Jones, that dog of yours gave me an awful fright last night, As I was passing your house he came tearing out of the yard, barking and yelping like all possessed." Jones-"Oh, he won't hurt you, Fogg; he's perthat money gives seems to them dormant and useless until it is put in action. | feetly harmless." Fogg—"Yes, that's what I told Mrs. F. this morning. He's perfectly harmless. He began to be narmless just after he ran at me last night. I had my revolver in my pocket, Good morning, Jones."-Boston Tran-

A LITTLE miss, residing not far off, had got into the naughty habit of not stating things as they were, or, to put it plainly, of stating them as they were not. Rather than reason with her on the wickedness of lying, her mother one day took down a New Testament and very solemnly read the story of Ananias and Sapphira, and their sudden death, because they disregarded the truth. The little lady heard the story through, and looking up, said: "Mamma, I don't believe it; I've told lots and lots of lies." What answer could be made. - Newburyport Herald.

The Brooklyn Bridge and Its Builder. Roebling was the greatest bridge builder in the world. He started the making of wire cordage in America and onilt suspension bridges to carry the iqueducts of canals across rivers, and engineered the Pennsylvania railroad

across the mountains.

The Brooklyn bridge, between towers, is 1,595 feet long. Behind the towers there are 940 feet each side, back to the anchorages. The whole length of the bridge and approaches is 6,000 feet. It is one of the widest bridges in the world, eighty-five feet, with a promenade thirteen feet wide, two railroad tracks and four carriage and horse-car tracks. It is 135 feet in the center above the water, The rock on which the towers rest is about ninety feet below the surface of and lights. At a ball they are not out the water on the New York side and half of place and keeping for certain pur- that depth on the Brooklyn side, the most stupendous thing about the structure. Each tower is 134 feet long by tifty-six wide, and at the top these dimensions are reduced to 120 feet by forty, or the size of a very large house, Each tower is 268 feet above high water. It is 1,336 feet from the beginning of the causeway on Chatham street out to the anchorage on the New York shore. The architect of the bridge received his death wound almost at its inception, standing on the upper framework of Fulton ferry slip as a boat came in and threw its weight against the piles, which yielded and crushed his foot. As if the spirit of the old ferry, about to be supplanted, had revenged itself an the innovator! beauties carry bouquets sent to each by the same men. Many are sent by members of the lady's family, which takes where poor John Fitch, the watchhalf the significance from flowers sent | maker, eighty-two years before, had by the same kinsfolk on birthdays, or in started the steamboat. But Roebling's true monument is the Brooklyn bridge sorrow. And what is to be said of the | towers, and between them in the nerves bouquets sent as bribes to women of and tendons, trembling like a weaver's fashion by men who wish to obtain their | web, plies the shuttle of his soul. You can hear his own words, if you are reverent, calling to the ships and steamers beneath: "It will be the greatest engineering work of the continent, and the greatest bridge in existence. Its towers will be national monuments! It will forever testify to the energy, enterprise and wealth of the great communities it overhangs!" Upon the portal of the bridge they might also inscribe his motto: "I have no fear of honest difference of opinion, it is only cavillers that I dread,"-New York Tribune.

> Experiments With Potatoes. C. L. Ingersol makes report of an ex-

periment with potatoes at Purdue University. The weather was extremely unfavorable for the growth of the crop; no tests were made as to quality. The following is the list of potatoes that did the best, and the yield of each per acre. The plats were small, but the crop was carefully weighed and the result computed as a yield per acre in order to give a better comparison. The season at this the rainfa'l from January 1 to July 1 1880. The following is the table: Snowflake, 227.8 bushels per acre; Strawberry Mercer, 183.2; Michigan Prolific, 173.9; Burbank's seedling, 141.9; Bliss' Triumph, 141.3; Trophy, 1381; Early Snowball, 13746; Lily No. 10, 130.4; Tioga, 128.0; Early Ohio, 120.0. The varieties which most closely followed these in the vie'd were respectively the Hubbardson Favorite, Climax, Red Lion, Prolific, Washington, Ruby, and opening of the morning session of Con- the seed was cut to two eyes as nearly as possible on a piece, and two pieces dropped in a hill. The hills were sixplied twice and London purple once, to keep off the Colorade beetle. Paris WHEN one man has a prejudice against green gave the best satis action. The another, suspicion is very busy in coin- poisons were mixed with water and applied with a rose sprinkler.